



THE LATIN SCHOOL

REGISTER

Vol. VII. No. 1.

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LATIN SCHOOL REGISTER.

The *LATIN SCHOOL REGISTER* is published monthly during the school year. Subscription price per year, 10 numbers, delivered at school, 50 cents, by mail, 60 cents. Single copies, 7 cents.

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LATIN SCHOOL REGISTER.

VOL. VIII.

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER, 1888.

No. 1.

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EDITORS' DESK.

The eighth volume of the REGISTER is presented to its readers as a pamphlet—a much more convenient form, it is believed, than the folded sheet of the previous volumes. Of course, such a form involves increased expense, but, while the price of subscription is no higher than formerly, we hope to meet the expense by a largely increased circulation. Indeed, every present pupil and recent graduate should feel sufficient interest in the publication of the school paper to be willing to pay the very reasonable subscription price.

Not only have we a right to expect this, but we hope that they will see that it is for their own interest as well as for that of the REGISTER to furnish original articles. The REGISTER is not designed to be merely the organ of the first and second classes, but to be a *Latin School* paper, in whose columns the whole school, including every class and those lately graduated, should be represented.

Well, our short two months of vacation are over, and our long ten months of labor have fairly commenced. It is edifying to witness the zeal and fidelity with which most of us buckle down to our daily tasks. If all who begin in this way would only hold out to the end, how glorious would be the result for them and for the school. But a few weeks will show the difference between mere impulse and steady purpose that "has come to stay."

OUR ILLUMINATED COVER.

The first thing to meet the eyes of the fortunate subscriber to the REGISTER of this year, is the tasteful design adorning the cover, all the more pleasing on account of its sketchy roughness, which betrays the free dashing movement of the artist's pencil. Although not strictly authorized to interpret its significance, we will venture a conjecture or two on that subject. The winged figure must be intended for the presiding genius of the Latin School. The inky darkness from which she is emerging typifies the dense ignorance preceding entrance to the school, still further represented in the medallion below, which a Harkness' Latin Grammar is vainly attempting to illumine. The Genius holds the *Latin School Register* well in hand with the "ribbons," although the amiable smile playing over her classic features precludes the idea of any very stern restraint. Vanishing into the dim distance is a series of medallions representing, first, the editor as he will appear when he gets his growth; next, a row of coins which the manager hopes will be a constant reminder to delinquent subscribers.

As will be seen on close inspection the design was kindly furnished by H. P. Mosher, of '88.

THE PRELIMINARIES.

Perhaps the members of the present Class II who purpose to take the Preliminary Examinations at Harvard next June will like to know in advance something about that ordeal. If they were asked what studies they are to be examined in, it is more than likely that not half the class could answer the question. They are, in brief, Elementary Latin, Elementary Greek, each of which occupies two hours, Algebra, Greek and Roman History, Greek Composition, and Elementary French, each of which occupies one hour.

Last June when the present Class I took their examinations, all the candidates assem-

bled in Sever Hall at 8 A. M., June 29, to receive instructions as to the examinations. At about 7 o'clock in the morning a group of B. L. S. boys might have been seen before the Providence Depot waiting for a Cambridge horsecar, and whiling away the time by joking and chatting.

All wore flannel Tennis shirts, even those who during the whole school year had rejoiced in stiff collars. The year before, the examinations had taken place during a very hot week, when the thermometer in the large room under the roof of Sever Hall registered 100° or more. Some good scholars were said to have failed on account of the excessive heat; hence the appearance of the class of '89 in flannel shirts.

Last June, however, the weather was unusually cool and bracing during the corresponding week, so that the group of candidates boarded the horse car with the hope that it would be warmer soon.

When we reached the College grounds there was already quite a crowd about Sever Hall, its numbers amounting before the doors were opened to several hundreds. At 8 A. M. the crowd entered the building and was directed to rooms to receive instructions. In these rooms each candidate is presented with a paper on which are a time table of the different examinations and a list of instructions. He also receives a slip containing his number, with a coupon attachment on which the number is repeated. This number he is to tear off and keep, while opposite that on the blank he writes his name and address. As afterwards he is to write this number on every examination book instead of his name, the blank becomes the only means of identifying him after he leaves the room. Then the candidates are assigned by numbers to the rooms in which they are to take their examinations.

The room in which I was, was large and airy, with accommodation for perhaps 120 persons; but the number assigned to it was only about 60. Extending lengthwise through the room were benches about six inches higher than our school desks and about 18 inches wide, with plain wooden chairs about four feet apart behind them. Before each chair was laid an examination book, consisting of eight or ten pages of unruled brown paper about eight inches by five, on the outside

cover of which was to be written the number of the candidate and the subject of the examination.

Of all the examinations the one in French was the most trying, not on account of its difficulty but its great length. Perhaps one or two candidates had time to finish it, but I doubt even that. In one hour it would require rapid writing even to *copy* the whole of it if it were all written out. The subject was a sketch of Benjamin Franklin's life, and its translation was so much like some well-known accounts of the statesman that the expression, "*fils d'un teinturier de Boston*," led most naturally to the mistaken rendering, "tallow-chandler's son." Queerly enough, that very morning, while some of those who were to take the French examinations were reading certain extracts with Mr. Capen in his room, they came across one of the most uncommon words in the passage, which had never come up before in the reading. This might be called a singular instance of "industry rewarded."

Next to French, many found the Latin examination the hardest. *Apropos* of this, a couple of weeks later, I saw and talked with a professor who had assisted in correcting some of the Latin papers, and he said that it was really wonderful how boys who would translate the hardest passages would mangle the easy ones. In describing the suicide of Cato at Utica, "*Ferrum intro clam in cubiculum tulit, atque se trajecit*," was translated: "He quietly drew his sword against his couch and pierced it." In speaking of the papers he said that wherever the candidate had caught the idea that Cato slew himself, and not the "*cubiculum*," he was almost sure of passing.

In speaking of the examinations, I should especially advise each student to take over whatever pen or pencil he finds he can write fastest and most plainly with. After knowledge of the subject, the next most important requisites are rapidity and plainness in writing and in expression.

I. M. C.

Experience is the best schoolmaster. It is true, but he is not always successful in his teaching. It isn't gray matter outside but inside the skull that tells.

MILITARY.

On the second day of school, Friday, September 7, the first class voted for their battalion officers for the coming year. After holding three meetings the teachers decided upon the following

ROSTER.**FIELD AND STAFF.**

Colonel,	W. J. H. Strong
Major,	F. G. Jackson
Adjutant,	G. E. Hume
Quartermaster,	W. W. Stover
Sergeant-Major,	J. J. Dolan

COMPANY A.

Captain,	T. H. Soren
1st Lieut.,	A. N. Broughton
2d Lieut.,	H. A. Hildreth

COMPANY B.

Captain,	C. W. Purington
1st Lieut.,	R. M. Merrick
2d Lieut.,	W. P. Bullard

COMPANY C.

Captain,	F. B. Gallivan
1st Lieut.,	C. I. Quirk
2d Lieut.,	E. F. Harriman

COMPANY D.

Captain,	H. E. Sears
1st Lieut.,	H. G. Nichols
2d Lieut.,	C. A. Blake

COMPANY E.

Captain,	F. U. Stearns
1st Lieut.,	W. H. Furber
2d Lieut.,	J. R. Burke

COMPANY F.

Captain,	I. M. Conness
1st Lieut.,	S. P. Waldron
2d Lieut.,	F. S. Stearns

COMPANY G.

Captain,	J. H. Hickey
1st Lieut.,	D. S. Muzzey
2d Lieut.,	J. B. Groce

COMPANY H.

Captain,	P. H. Thomas
1st Lieut.,	H. O. Marcy
2d Lieut.,	A. H. Gordon

It is expected that some changes will be made, and notice will be given in our next issue. The names of first sergeants then appointed will also be printed.

THE BATTALION.

The Latin School Battalion, taken as a whole, has always been one of the best in the School Regiment. It is, perhaps, natural that such should be the case. The course of study is longer in our school than in any of the others, and most of the pupils begin drill when they enter, (usually as "high" privates in one of the "pony" companies), and continue in the battalion through the entire six years. The members of the battalion must be at least thirteen years old, and free from any physical defect that would prevent them from carrying a musket or from marching. (Lighter guns are used in the smaller companies than in the larger ones.)

Let us suppose that our little high private has finished one year of drill. When the battalion is formed the next fall, he has probably grown enough to enter the next company above the one in which he began his military career. If he has become proficient in handling his musket he may obtain one of the four corporalcies, which are filled by a competitive drill the first of the year. How proud he feels of his first honor. The plain silver letters are changed to gold, as by the touch of Midas. The two stripes of gold braid on each arm appear to him glorious. In this capacity of corporal he finishes his second year. Now comes his chance. He feels that although last year he was a corporal, his position was in reality but very little better than that of private. He recalls with admiration the lordly strut of the sergeants as they walked in file of the company. How vastly superior to his simple gold letters are the silver wreath and cord of the sergeant! Their triple chevrons and trousers with silver cord are an inspiration to him. His determination is aroused. He will be a sergeant! But how? . . . He has heard of an election in "Room 12." He has seen that sacred precinct, the Olympus whose ambrosia has drawn swarms of smaller creatures to it, crowded each intermission, before and after school, at any time, by an importunate rabble buzzing of sergeancies. "Give me sergeancy?" Oh, how common a cry at this time!—At last he makes up his mind for it, and with faltering footsteps but a firm heart, he beards

some lion in his den, (the aforesaid Room 12), and "strikes" him for his desire. He is unsuccessful. He seizes his next opportunity. His quest is futile. He tries another, and at last, with much begging and the aid of some common friend of the newly-fledged captain and himself, he is a sergeant.

The next year the operation is repeated, but he finds less difficulty in getting his appointment, and possibly an offer is made him without his solicitation, if he is a particularly desirable sergeant from exceptional ability in drilling. He may be lucky and obtain a first sergeancy with an extra square in his chevron and a gold tip to his cap-cord; but usually this position is held only by boys in the second class. He is now in the third class, a sergeant in one of the larger companies, and ready for something better the next year. He may be another sergeant, but in a higher company, a first sergeant, or in some infrequent cases a second lieutenant. It is the plan of the school to appoint the commissioned officers from the first class only; but when the class is too small to furnish a full quota of officers, the deficiency is made up from the second class. When our young Napoleon has become a senior, if he is ambitious, he will signify his intention of running for a high office. If he is a popular fellow he will receive the nomination of his classmates, to be ratified into an election by the teachers, should his scholarship and deportment warrant. He now has the power to give out some of the sergeancies, for which he himself once longed, or perhaps to command the whole battalion, or even the regiment, of which he was once a mere unit.

This possibility lies before all boys of the school who, commencing at this lowest grade in the battalion, have the ambition to reach a post of honor in it. Strict obedience to orders is everywhere recognized as the keynote of military success. The determination to make use of every opportunity for improvement, in *individual cases*, will bring up the drill standard wonderfully.

Let all members of the battalion take hold of the drill with zeal, and if possible make this year's exercises the best the school has ever seen.

FOOTBALL.

Football, probably the most popular of all the fall sports, again demands its share of the time which we devote to exercise.

A school with nearly five hundred pupils ought to put a team into the field which would be creditable to it. In order to do this the players must have assistance in three ways; First, everybody who can play must compete for a position on the eleven. Secondly, as many as possible must attend the games and encourage the players. Thirdly, all who are able ought to give pecuniary aid.

This year we have something more than a few victories to play for. The hope of gaining the championship of the Association, and the possession of the cup for a year, ought to arouse more spirit in the school than has been manifested for some years.

If Harvard students take interest enough in the preparatory schools to encourage us as they have, we, as one of these schools, certainly ought to do our best to show that we appreciate their kindness.

NOTES.

Similia similibus curantur. Use the scraper and avoid scrapes.

August, formerly of '89, has passed the examinations for admission to the Harvard Medical School.

There are now 480 pupils in the school, while at the corresponding time last year there were 454. In the first class there are 42; in the second 53; in the third 90; in the fourth 72; in the fifth 144; and in the sixth 79.

The incredible number of sodas that new captains have forced upon them, or rather down them, by zealous would-be sergeants, is very gratifying to the captains foresaid.

Grossman, '88, is engaged in the publishing business with the Moses King Corporation. This shows what school journalism may lead to. Moral: Begin writing for the REGISTER in the lower classes.

Apropos of the above moral, write only on one side of the paper.

We are in receipt of the "Annual Report of the Commissioner of Pensions." Evidently the purpose and destiny of the Latin School Battalion, as an organization, are misunderstood at Washington.

Dorchester, who entered the second class this September, has been pitching for the Belmonts during the summer.

"Big houses" in the Exhibition Hall Monday mornings this year.

Mr. W. T. Strong, formerly a teacher in the Latin School, and afterwards Secretary of the Austrian Legation, visited us last week.

Small boy of sixth class overheard talking to captain of Co. A: "Ain't I big enough for *fifth*?"

The members of the first class held their first class meeting Monday, Sept. 17. Strong and Hume were re-elected respectively president and secretary. Broughton was elected manager of the football team, and F. U. Stearns captain. They are to act as Latin School Delegates to the Interscholastic Football Association mentioned in another column.

As this year is Presidential year, it may be of interest to know the preferences of the first class. Of the 43 boys, 28 are in favor of Mr. Harrison; 10 are for Mr. Cleveland; 3 for Mr. Fisk; 1 doesn't favor any of the candidates, and 1 is not interested in the result however it comes out.

There was a high private of B,
Who asked to be sergeant of G,
But the Captain said "Nay,
Be a corp'r'l of A,
Where you'll not so conspicuous be.
For a sergeancy you are N. G.,
So you see
You cannot be sergeant of G;
Q. E. D."

H. S. Potter, Jr. '88, has been recovering his strength in Maine during the summer, and expects to be able to join his class at Harvard.

The teachers spent their vacations at the following places; Dr. Merrill at Pigeon Cove, Mass.; Mr. Fiske at Boston; Mr. Capen at Moosehead Lake; Mr. Chadwick at Wentworth, N. H.; Mr. Groce at Shelburne and other points in the White Mts.; Mr. Rollins at Rhinebeck, N. Y.; Mr. Jackson at Shel-

burne, N. H.; Mr. Emery in California and Washington Ter.; Mr. Bergen at Cambridge; Mr. Freeborn in the Adirondacks, White Mts. and Rhode Island; Mr. Richardson superintending the building of his new house at Wellesley Hills; Mr. Jones at Bangor, Me.; Mr. Mullen at Weirs and Nantasket; Mr. Dunn at Needham; and Mr. Howes at So. Acton and Marblehead Neck.

If you want to know what is meant by being "on the tenter hooks," run for an office in the battalion.

Ovid gives us some pat illustrations in his "Phaethon." At the beginning of the term, the boys are full of enthusiasm,—

"Sponte sua properant; labor est inhibere volentes." (line 128)

But there has been a long season of disuse of the mental faculties; like the muscles, they have become more or less inert, hence the resumption of labor is difficult,—

"Ardua prima via est, et qua vix from vacation recentes
Enituntur boys." (line 63 — 4)

When the machinery gets well oiled, the rust worn off, and full impetus gained, we rise to the climax:—

"Medio est altissima coelo." (line 64)

When the long vacation again approaches there comes with it a tendency to recklessness which sometimes proves disastrous:—

"Ultima prona via est, et eget mode-ramine certo." (line 67)

INTER-SCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

During the first part of last June this school was invited to send some one interested in the game of football to a meeting of delegates from different preparatory schools situated in and about Boston. The Roxbury Latin, Cambridge High and Latin, Chauncy Hall, Mr. Hopkinson's, Mr. Noble's, Mr. Nichols's Mr. Stone's, Mr. Hale's, and the Boston Latin Schools were represented.

The delegates from these schools formed an association, with Mr. Beals of the Roxbury Latin as president, Mr. Randall of Mr. Noble's as vice-president, Mr. Forbes of Mr. Hopkinson's as secretary, and Mr. Loring

of Mr. Nichols's as treasurer. There will be two meetings of the association each year, one on the first Saturday in May, and another on the last Saturday in September. Two representatives from each team will be present.

In order that each school might not be obliged to play too many games, a few have consolidated. Mr. Nichols's, Mr. Hale's and Mr. Stone's school will support one team, the Cambridge High and Latin another, while the Roxbury Latin, Mr. Noble's, Mr. Hopkinson's, Chauncy Hall, and the Boston Latin will each support one. This makes seven teams, each of which will have to play only six games.

Messrs. Sears, Hale, Boardman, Fiske, Butler, and Porter of Harvard College have offered a cup, for which the teams above mentioned will contend. These gentlemen, with the acting captain of Harvard's team, one of the donors of the cup, will constitute an advisory committee, which will have a general supervision over the association.

The cup must be played for each year, and the team winning it shall have the names of its players engraved upon it, and shall hold it until won by another team.

EXTRACT FROM PRIZE TRANSLATION.

JUNE, 1888.

AENEID (VI. 860-901.)

*Æneas speaks:— for with the chief
He sees a youth e'ercome with grief.
Yet had he form both fair and grand
And bore the glistening shield and brand.
“ Pray, who is that so fair of face?
An offspring of the hero's race?
What noise of gladness, joy, and shout
Resounds his figure round about!
Yet what is that o'erhangs his head—
That gloomy cloud with blackness fed?”*

With tears fast flowing from his eyes,
Anchises to his son replies:
“ The sorrow of thy mighty race
Ask not— seek not its course to trace.
To mortals will the Fates but show
This youth— nor longer stay allow.
Too great the Roman race had been,
If we, O Gods, such gifts could win.
What lamentations and what sighs
From Mars' great city's plain will rise!
What pomp and rite wilt thou not see,
O Tiber, ere entombed he'll be!

O'er his new-raised funeral mound
Sacred be thy watch around!
How great his sires' hopes! How high!
And yet how prostrate will they lie!
Of Ilian blood, from Jove above,
No boy great Roine so much will love.
Alas, for virtue and for truth!
For arms invincible forsooth!
What foeman would have met this boy?
Who safely could his path annoy?
Did he contend in humble guise,
Or did his plume on charger rise?
But break the cruel Fates' decree,
And our Marcellus wilt thou be!
Give me flowers of purple hue,
Scattering these to honor you.
Let me strew these lilies white,
Though it be a useless rite.
Let me strew these in thy way.
Let me strew love's emblems gay”

Thus they travel fields of air,
Survey and wander everywhere.
Anchises then foretells the fame,
The glory of Æneas' name.
He speaks of wars, as yet unseen,
Of short and troubled calms between.
He speaks of nations, foreign lands,
Strong in fierce and hostile bands.
He tells how hardships he must bear,
Face or shun grim Trouble's lair.
He tells of woes, fatigue, and care,
Ere he the promised crown shall wear.

Two gates hath this abode of dead:
One, made of horn— indeed 'tis said—
Affords to spirits dwelling there
An exit to the upper air.
The other's made of ivory white;
By this go false dreams of the night.
Anchises from the ivory one
Sends forth the Sibyl and his son.
Æneas hastens to reach his fleet,
To seek his friends, his comrades meet.
Then sails he Caita's port to reach—
The ships drawn up lie on the beach.

J. H. HICKEY.

A DAY AT MOOSEHEAD LAKE.

The evening before, the sun had set behind a hazy bank of clouds that threatened to spoil our next day's sport, but despite that the boat had been engaged and other arrangements completed.

I awoke early, and my disappointment may be imagined at hearing the rain beating down upon the tin roof. “Pshaw! Pa won't go now,” I thought and then went to sleep again. I did not sleep long, however, and after dressing, my cousin and myself put on

our rubber coats and boots and went out to find "Uncle John," a man about seventy-two years of age who had been a guide in this region all his life. He has had the nickname of "Uncle John" for over forty years, and is said to have killed more moose than any other man in Maine. We found him close by, in the pouring rain, trying to catch minnows with a scoop net. We needed them for bait. He had been at it since 5 o'clock, and had, besides, walked the mile and a half from Greenville to the terminus of the Bangor and Piscatiquis railroad, where we were staying. As Uncle John had only caught a few, my cousin and I got out our hooks and some linen thread, and before long had all the "minnows" we needed, mostly fine clubs.

We went to bed with fear and trembling, but we were rejoiced when Pa said, "Go we will, rain or no rain." After breakfast we carried our tackle and a large basket of lunch aboard the boat—a small steam yacht—and started up the lake, bound for the "buoy" fishing grounds. The party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. B., Mr. and Mrs. G., my cousin, and myself; besides these there were Uncle John, the captain, the engineer, and a younger brother of the captain. It had stopped raining, but the clouds hung so low that we could not see any of the mountains, and so lost much of the enjoyment we otherwise would have had. We were fortunate enough to have secured the fastest yacht on the lake. The distance from the railroad landing to the Kineo House is about sixteen miles, and in about an hour and a half three of us were walking into the store at Kineo to buy some more lines and hooks so that we should have plenty.

After leaving the store with its crowd of bronzed guides, we started for the "buoy," which is opposite the Kineo House, near the other shore. On the way over we had a good view of the hotel and its surroundings. It is a fine, large structure painted in the 'Colonial' style, and to quote Mr. Dennen, its manager, "is planned on an ample scale, and believed to be second to none in construction, general management, and convenience, as well as in its provisions for the security and comfort of its guests." It is situated at the base of Mount Kineo on a few acres of level ground, with the stores and stables necessary to a place of its kind.

The yacht was anchored in sixty feet of water, and the sport began with the offer of a prize of fifty cents to the catcher of the first fish. I at first tried my rod, but soon abandoned it for a hand line. We all set eagerly to work in silence, which was now and then broken by the query, "Got a bite?" each time to be answered by the disappointed expectant, "No." Before long a slight stir, and "I got him," attracted the attention of all, and in a minute the engineer had landed a White fish of good size and added the fifty cents to his financial store. This excitement soon subsided and was followed by an opportunity of testing our patience as fishermen; indeed we began to fear that we had captured our first and last fish when Mr. G. broke the spell by hauling out a lake trout of fair weight. The prospect of having fish enough for dinner suggested the sending of a boat ashore for potatoes and pork. Just before its return Mr. G., again the lucky one, took a beautiful brook trout of about two and a half pounds. All our energies were then given to preparing for dinner; the fish were cleaned, and by that time the pork had been tried out in the fire-box of the engine, and soon we heard the fish sizzling in a way that gave us keener appetites, if that were possible.

We sat down to a dinner that we enjoyed more than many others that were far more pretentious. But, you remember what the cook told Dionysius, the tyrant, who found the black broth of the Spartans very unpalatable,—"The broth is nothing without the seasoning of fatigue and hunger." (See Smith's Smaller Greek Hist. P. 23.) It was generally the opinion that the White fish was the best eating. While we were at dinner, Uncle John caught two more, a "Laker" and a White fish. It is noteworthy that all five fish were caught on the same side of the boat and almost in the same place, and four of them on the same line, a light green one.

After dinner a few of us tried our luck again, and we were about to raise anchor, being disgusted with our poor luck, when a shout from the stern brought us all to the spot. Cousin's rod was bending double. The ladies were rushing up out of the cabin, "rheumatics" and all. Uncle John had the landing net and was giving directions; his voice and the click of the reel were now the

only things which broke the silence. All were bending forward to catch sight of the monster and in a moment a — snag came into view. It was hooked about in the centre and this is what had given it the swinging motion that had so deceived us. Then in the merriment that followed, Uncle John quietly disappeared, while the Captain and engineer became very much absorbed in raising the anchor, and we were soon steaming away toward the Cliff with a pleasant remembrance for the close of a poor day's fishing.

We rounded the point into Kineo Bay and the grandeur of the Cliff was seen, although part of its seven hundred and fifty feet was hidden by clouds. The yacht went under the overhanging rocks and the Captain stepped off on the rock and picked a few flowers and brought them back, together with some pieces of flint, while a hawk, startled by our arrival, flew up the face of the Cliff uttering its peculiar whistling cry. Indians originally dwelt on Mt. Kineo, which is the largest mass of hornstone in the world. It was from here that the whole region was supplied with the materials for stone implements. The Indian word "Kineo" means "Arrow-head stone." We went slowly from the Cliff, getting beautiful echos of the whistle, and touched on Pebbley beach, which is just opposite the Cliff. Most of the party landed and picked up some of the beautiful and curious stones which give the beach its name.

We then started homeward, and along the shore, just after rounding the point into the lake, Uncle John showed us places where he had seen a hundred trout out of the water at once, and where one evening he had counted thirty-three canoes with their occupants fishing. We passed the "buoy" on returning; all but one of the canoes that had been there while we were there had left. In the stern of the craft that remained sat a large woman fishing with two lines, one in each hand. When at a distance it was comical to see her sitting jerking up both hands at regular intervals, like a "jumping-jack." The captain informed us that she made a regular business of fishing for the hotel.

The lake was as smooth as glass, while the stroke of the engine was the only sound to break the peacefulness of the evening. It had cleared away in the West.

"And the long and level sunbeams
Shot their spears into the forest,
Breaking through its shields of shadow,
Rushed into each secret ambush,
Searched each thicket, dingle, hollow."

Soon the landing was reached, and we said good-bye to the acquaintance of the day and were off to new fields of enjoyment.

B. B.

GARDNER PRIZE ESSAY.

PROGRESS IN ASTRONOMY.

W. S. BANGS.

The first progress of any moment in astronomy was made by the Chinese and Egyptians. They, however, knew only such facts as were apparent to the eye from a nightly examination of the heavens. They advanced no further than observing the returns and calculating the respective places of the celestial bodies. The Greeks obtained from the Egyptians what they knew of astronomy, and the vigorous minds of their early philosophers made some important additions to the science. Pythagoras and Aristarchus worked out a complex geometrical plan of stellar movements, which, however, was not generally received by the following generations as being correct. Eighteen hundred years afterward, Copernicus, a Prussian priest, rejected the many false ideas that had been prevalent since the time of Aristarchus, and, reviving that philosopher's plan, compiled from it a more harmonious system, which is generally received as true to-day. This early branch of the subject, called "observational" or "practical" astronomy, could note facts obtained from naked-eye observation, but it had no conception of a compelling cause.

The second division of the science, known as "theoretical" astronomy, was founded by Newton and was based on the idea of *cause*. Newton's great discovery, as everyone knows, was the law of gravitation, and by this law he explained all planetary motions. The third branch called "physical and descriptive" astronomy, is the one which chiefly occupies the attention of astronomers to-day. It may be said to have originated with the discovery of the telescope by Galileo, although Herschel was the first to give it the prominence that it has kept up all through the nineteenth century. By the aid of the telescope, together

with the spectroscope and photographic camera, results have been achieved and discoveries made which the most hopeful of the old-school philosophers would not have believed possible in their most sanguine moments.

There was no extraordinary progress made during the eighteenth century. The "*Mécanique Céleste*" of Laplace demonstrated the validity of Newton's law, tracing out its complex results, and completed in all its details the theory of the solar system. No theory, however, can be established as certain until it has been confirmed by observation. Thus, observation has been the chief aim of this century, and, while many of the old theories have been rejected, others have been confirmed by accurate and pains-taking research. The Astronomer Royal, James Bradley, by his perseverance and energy, raised the science to a higher degree of precision than it had before attained, and laid the foundation for what may be termed "exact" astronomy. This eminent scientist was followed by the world's greatest astronomer, Sir William Herschel, whose magnificent discoveries made with the aid of his giant telescopes, gave the science a new impulse; indeed, he was the first to excite the interest of the people and arouse that wide-spread enthusiasm that gave rise to "popular" astronomy.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the study of astronomy was organized in the United States by a wave of popular enthusiasm. So great an eagerness was manifested in starting observations, contributing money for instruments, and acquiring instruction in their use, that in a very few years the old nations beheld our new republic on an equality with themselves, and even excelling them, in a science which they had fostered for centuries.

All the knowledge concerning the stars at the beginning of the last quarter of the eighteenth century, may be summed up in three items: that the stars have real or apparent motions; that they are at immeasurable distances from the earth; that a few are variable;—that is, the light of some is of different intensity at different times. So there was an extensive field for Herschel to work in, and well did he use his opportunities. The value of his work can scarcely be over-estimated. He devoted all the energy of his life to exploring the heavens. His avowed purpose

was to explore, measure, and delineate the milky way, and to this all his other labors were subservient. Almost all the knowledge of the galaxy we possess was prepared or anticipated by him. Besides being foremost in investigating the milky way, Herschel was almost the first astronomer to pay much attention to nebulae. Indeed, but one nebula was known before the invention of the telescope, that in the girdle of Adromeda, which was familiar to the Persian astronomers. Comparatively few nebulae (only about one hundred) were noticed even after the telescope came into use; but Herschel with his superior facilities found and catalogued over fifteen hundred.

One of Herschel's great discoveries was that of the revolution of double stars. From the time of this discovery, sidereal astronomy became a recognized branch, "which," it has been said, "may be the astronomy of the future."

After the death of Herschel progress in this branch of the science was made and rendered more systematic by the labors of the German astronomers, Bessel and Fraunhofer. All the information about the stars obtained up to this time, was valuable not so much for its amount as for its kind. It gave great impetus to sidereal astronomy, besides furnishing the basis for the more important and accurate work of the last fifty years.

Now comes in the great discovery of spectrum analysis, which strikes the key-note of the progress of the latter half of this century, as Herschel's inquiries did of the first. The old astronomers pronounced such a science as stellar chemistry to be impossible, but one of the most prominent features of this century's rapid progress is the vast strides that have been made in this branch. By means of the spectroscope we are enabled to analyze the light proceeding from a star, which no telescopic lens can magnify into more than a mere point of light, and tell the materials of which it is composed; to determine that comets are self-luminous; to solve the mystery of nebulae; and even to get some idea of the systems and paths of the stars;—thus hinting at the existence of systems so vast and complex that the mind shrinks from their contemplation.

(To be Continued.)

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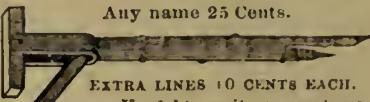
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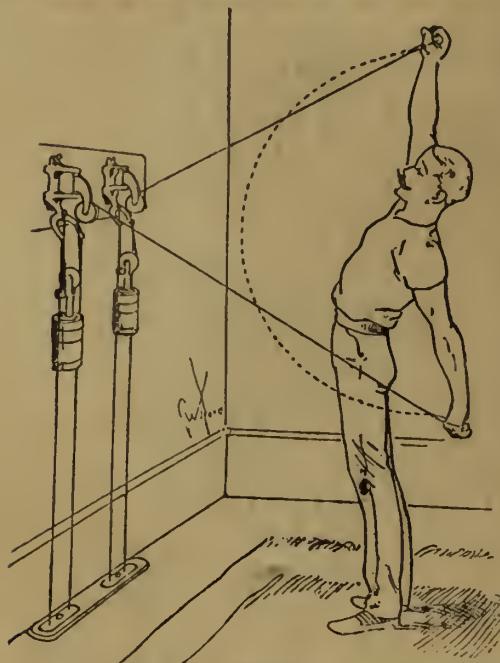
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